Clearance of Tehri Dam

@1876. SHRI RANJIT SINGH : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the 'Times of India' of the 2nd November, 1991 captioned 'Tehri Dam was not cleared';

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Department of Environment had approved the construction of this dam subject to fulfilling of certain conditions;

(c) if so, what were those conditions and what were the reasons for non-fulfilment of these conditions before starting the construction work of the dam;

(d) whether Government have identified the officers responsible for not fulfilling this responsibilty; and

(e) if so, what are the names and designations thereof and what action has been taken against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) Conditional clearance to Tehri Project was granted in July, 1990 subject to submission of requisite Environmental Action Plans in a time-bound manner for implementatiton *pari-passu* with engineering works. The Environmental Action Plans include preparation of Catchment Area Treatment, Command Area Development, Rehabilitation Master Plan, Survey of flora and fauna for rehabilitation of endangered species, study of water quality and water quality maintenance plan and risk assessment for preparation of Disaster Management Plan etc. The conditions imposed have not been complied with within the stipulated time. The project authorities are presently formulating these action plans or having them prepared by the concerned agencies.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 1114, transferred from 3rd December, 1991.

Pollution of rivers in Tamil Nadu

1877. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the polluted rivers in Tamil Nadu;

(b) what is the extent of pollution in each river; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to control the pollution of those rivers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Based upon the results of the river water quality monitoring programme, the Central Pollution Control Board has identified 13 grossly polluted river stretches in the country. None of these grossly polluted stretches of the rivers is in Tamil Nadu.

(c) The Government has taken the following steps for the prevention, abatement and control of water pollution :

(i) Effluent and emission standards have been prescribed under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(ii) Networks of ambient air quality and ambient water qualty monitoring stations have been set up;

(iii) Environmental guidelines have been evolved for sitting and operation of industries;

(iv) Industries have been asked to comply with consent requirements of the State Pollution Control Boards to keep the discharge of effluents and emissions within the stipulated limits;

(v) A time bound action plan for control of highly polluting 17 categories of industries has been prepared in consultation with the State Governments and a Notification has been issued under which polluting units are required to meet the standards by December 31, 1991;

(vi) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment;